

Allies want Libya vote Monday

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Western allies have asked for a Security Council vote Monday to tighten sanctions against Libya for not surrendering two men accused in the bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Scotland in 1988.

Diplomats said Friday the draft will probably include a grace period to Dec. 1, before sanctions go into effect.

The grace period has been changed several times and may be changed again at the urging of both China and Russia, after Moscow previously threatened to veto the measures for fear Libya would not repay \$4 billion it owes Moscow.

Envoy said the United States, Britain and France had asked council members, in a private session Friday, to vote for the resolution Monday but a formal meeting has not been scheduled while states review the draft.

The draft resolution freezes

Libya's financial assets and bans oil transport and refinery equipment. But it excludes oil production equipment or future revenues from oil sales earned after the draft is adopted.

The three allies gave private assurances to Russia it could, under certain circumstances, tap the frozen assets to help repay the debt, but only if Libya agrees. However, envoys from the three countries flatly denied there was any deal to lend or give Russia the \$4 billion from other funds.

Most of the debt is for Russia's military sales to Libya, and Russian military officers apparently continued to resist the new sanctions.

But after winning concessions from the United States, France and Britain — the prime sponsors of the sanctions resolution — and U.S. warnings by President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister John Major of Britain, the Russians are going along.

The resolution was rework-

ed to say Libya would still be obliged to pay off its foreign debt. An informal understanding was also reached that proceeds from future Libyan oil sales, which will not be frozen, would go towards servicing the debt.

Russia's objection was that the sanctions could prevent the country from repaying \$4 billion debt to Moscow. That is no small issue for Boris Yeltsin, already relying heavily on billions of dollars of Western aid to keep Russia's economy afloat.

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The question remains, however, whether the penalties will do any good. If they do not, the United States is threatening to turn the screws further, cutting off Libya's lifeblood, oil.

The sanctions go beyond an air and arms embargo in effect

Asians seek entry to Mideast arms market

DUBAI (AFP) — China and other Asian arms producers are seeking a foothold in the lucrative Middle East market, long dominated by the United States and its western allies, regional experts said.

China, Pakistan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore will exhibit advanced air-related technology while the former will also display its CN-235, a multi-purpose patrol plane produced jointly with Spain's CASA.

"It is not a matter of whether they can compete with the United States and other major producers. These countries are exhibiting something different," a Gulf-based military expert said.

Pakistan, a new arms exporter eyeing the growing regional market, is displaying its latest version of the Mushshak jet trainer, which has been tested by the UAE air force, according to organisers of the Nov. 7-11 show in Dubai.

Pakistan's aeronautical complex produces the Shahbaz primary trainer which is an undated version of the Mushshak, originally designed by Sweden.

More than 250 Mushshaks have been built in Pakistan, according to the London-based Fairs and Exhibitions organisation.

Pakistan boasts that the new Shahbaz aircraft could meet desert conditions with its updated turbo engine, improved instruments and air conditioning. Fairs and Exhibitions said in a statement.

Some 450 companies from the United States, France, Britain, Russia, Italy, and South Africa as well as 30 other countries are participating in the show, the third largest in the world.

Some 80 types of military and civilian aircraft will be exhibited and nearly 20,000 delegates are expected to attend.

"It is like a race," a military expert said. "Everyone knows there are vast sale opportunities in this market and everyone wants a share."

PKK disowns attacks on Turkish targets in Europe

ISTANBUL (Agencies) — The separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) has denied any involvement in a wave of attacks against Turkish offices across Europe.

Media reports, particularly in Germany, have asserted that those who carried out the attacks are members of the PKK. There is no truth in these statements," a statement from the PKK European representative said.

The statement faxed to an international news agency said Kurds had carried out the simultaneous assaults on Turkish diplomatic missions, travel agencies, airline offices and other premises on Thursday.

Organisers had said they expected major deals to be announced at the show, but it was not clear whether they would involve products from Asian countries. Officials, however, said the fair, the third to be held in Dubai, would showcase the latest in the arms industry.

The advanced technology

which will go on exhibit could enable the Gulf states and other countries to make contacts with the participating companies," said Khaled Ben Sulayem, chairman of the Dubai tourism and trade board.

Defence ministers from 15 countries are expected at the show.

The United States will display its sophisticated F-15, F-16 and F/A-18 planes. France will feature the Mirage and Britain will exhibit Hawks and Harriers.

Russia is making its biggest

showing at a Middle East arms

show,

sending 20 warplanes,

including the state-of-the-art

Sukhoi-35. South Africa, cap-

talising on an end to interna-

tional sanctions, is making its

debut with the advanced CSH-

-2 Rookwalk (red falcon) attack

helicopter.

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MESSAGE FROM SENEGAL: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a message from Senegal's president, Abdou Diouf, delivered to him by Senegal's Ambassador to Kuwait Abdul

Rahman Ambaki who was on a visit to the Kingdom. During the audience at the Royal Court, the King and the envoy reviewed current regional and international issues

NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Tunisian leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable of good wishes to President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia on the anniversary of his assuming the presidency. The King wished Mr. Ben Ali continued good health and happiness and further progress for the Tunisian people.

Nov. 14 is public holiday

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions will observe a public holiday on Sunday Nov. 14, marking His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, according to a statement from the Prime Ministry Saturday.

Team to participate in population conference in Indonesia

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in a non-aligned nations population conference due to open in Indonesia on Tuesday. The conference, which is part of preparations for an international conference on population to be held in Cairo next year,

will review population issues in the non-aligned nations. A two-member team to the week-long conference leaves for Indonesia today (Sunday).

Petroleum union cooperation accord signed

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the General Jordanian Federation of Workers in the Petroleum Industry has returned from a 10-day visit to Egypt where they signed a protocol paving the way for cooperation in union-related affairs. Under the agreement, 15 Jordanian workers will be sent to Egypt for a two-week training course on unionist work at the Cairo-based Petroleum Union Institute.

Jordan takes part in major FAO conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in the general conference by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) which opened in Rome Saturday. Agriculture Minister Marwan Kamal is attending the meetings which will focus on current and future food and agriculture situations around the world. The 20-day conference will also discuss means of involving women in rural development and discuss a 1994-1995 plan for FAO's operations.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of recent paintings by artist Ammar Khammash at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing, the permanent exhibition (Saturday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition by a group of artists at Orfali Art Gallery (telephone 643251/2).
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mustafa Ali at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Sa'di Al Ka'b at Alia Art Gallery (9:30-13:30 and 1500-1800).

- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Al Jalooz at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Abu Zraq entitled "Views" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics and coloured glass by artists Khalid Mahafzah and Basel Tarawneh at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILMS

- ★ Film entitled "The Seven Samurai" at the American Center at 5:00 p.m. (207 minutes; in Japanese with English subtitles).

LECTURES

- ★ Lecture entitled "The Crisis of the Palestinian National Identity: Factors and Challenges" by Dr. Bayan Al Hoot at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation at 6:00 p.m.

King urges all voters to exercise right

(Continued from page 1)

cerpts of the King's address: "I am pleased to meet with you today and to welcome you in your home, the home of all Jordanians of various origins to discuss together issues of concern to the Centre for Studies on Freedom, Democracy and Human Rights."

"We have designed this centre as a genuine tributary, enriching our democratic march through studies and research that would open new horizons and pave the way for its endeavours to spread and take root in the conscience and souls of people at a time when we witness numerous freedom fighters in the Arab Nation continually suffering from oppression, deprivation and pursuit."

"The world around us is now at the threshold of a new cultural phase that has not yet assumed its full dimensions, a world in which we witness harbingers of civil and ethnic conflicts that reflect the tendency towards hegemony and aggression and infringement on the human rights and dignity in many parts of the world."

"These facts place us all face to face with our responsibilities and our true and firm conviction of the need to ensure the respect of human freedom, dignity and rights regardless of colour, race or creed."

"I wish to reassert my full conviction that no nation can face the challenges, escape darkness, oppression and ignorance and attain enlightenment and knowledge without freedom, democracy and respect of human rights."

"As far as I remember I have told you in our first meet-

ing that the mission of your centre is enhancing the Jordanian democratic experiment, unbridling the potentials of intellectuals and creative people who could help build the complete model of political, social and cultural democracy."

"We would like these elements to create in this centre a clear vision of the future which we can employ to serve as a springboard for a comprehensive pan-Arab movement that would take the lead in resuming the Arab renaissance, which always served as the main axis of the Great Arab Revolt."

"It is our duty to pursue the efforts with a firm faith and with a will that has no room for weakness or slackness. We hope to see the idea of this centre and its project transformed into concrete reality, affecting our life and our stands and our visions and concepts of freedom, democracy and human rights."

"We live in an age in which we witness human rights, freedom and dignity facing threat or aggression. It is enough here to point to the Israeli authorities' recent decision to consider the Islamic Holy shrines in Jerusalem as part of the land of Israel, placing these sites under Israeli sovereignty."

"What aggression on human rights, freedom and dignity can be more cruel than confiscating sacred sites and places of worship?"

"I have stated more than once that the shrines and places of worship should only be subject to God's sovereignty alone and should remain as a haven for all believers in God. The followers of the three monotheistic religions. No one

should have absolute sovereignty over these holy places as this is totally rejected by all international principles and laws."

"Perhaps it is a good omen that we meet today while the homeland is preparing for general elections on Monday. I seize this good opportunity to send to all citizens in Jordan my greetings, my appreciation and deep pride as companions of my lifetime march and my struggle."

"The Jordanian people never shirked a duty nor did they ever spare a sacrifice or bow their heads except to God."

"Addressing them from this place and a position of one with responsibility and experience I reaffirm that genuine and good citizenship requires from them all to exercise their right in electing those who represent them in Parliament."

"Any failure in exercising this right is regarded as shirking of national responsibility and abandoning the nation's higher interests. Failure to participate in the elections is not becoming Jordanians who are known to have upheld duty with honour."

"If we are so keen on performing our duty and exercising our rights in electing deputies because this is a national and sacred duty, it is more important and for us to let our consciences and our minds decide on the elite of people who truly deserve to be the representatives of the Jordanian people to be entrusted with our national interests."

"Based on this assumption our choice should be free from any influence, and rising above petty personal and selfish interests and emanating from the sense of national responsibility."

(Continued from page 1)

The Israeli daily Hadashot said Friday that Chief-Of-Staff Ehud Barak led a delegation to talks with Syrians in Cyprus recently. But the report was officially denied.

Israeli Health Minister Chaim Ramon told the Haaretz newspaper: "We are in permanent negotiations with the Syrians and the United States and Egypt are associated with that. The two countries work on messages."

"So let us proceed, with God's blessing, and let us choose those from amongst us who are known for their integrity, purity, faithfulness and belonging to the homeland. Let us act with a high degree of keenness and astuteness lest we be taken in by loud voices or false slogans."

"Let me reaffirm to all my Jordanian brothers and free men and women that these elections like the previous ones will be a model of integrity and fairness. I guarantee for all the Jordanians that the elections will be as they were before."

"Let us proceed towards our sacred national duty with tranquil souls and undisturbed conscience and with open and alert minds."

"Let our proud people come out and appear in this day of democracy and let us serve as an example and a model of conduct in protecting the achievements of the homeland which we have built with patience, toil and sacrifice. Let us live up to the expectations of our nation which looks towards our march with hope and admiration of which we are worthy."

"It said Syria had persuaded Washington of the need to continue the formal peace process."

Transformations in Mideast will be influenced by nature, quality of women's participation in society — Queen

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor was the keynote speaker at a conference on Middle Eastern women in New York Friday.

Organised by Teachers College Columbia University, the two-day conference, entitled "Transformations: Women and Change in the Middle East," sought to provide a framework for discussion, illumination and understanding of the changing role of women in the Middle East.

The participants were prominent speakers involved in women's issues in the Middle East, including academics, commentators, analysts and international organisation leaders.

In her address, Queen Noor said that the subject of the conference was "crucial to the social and political transformations under way in the Middle East," and "timely because at this defining moment of change for the region, these transformations will be deeply influenced by the expanded nature and quality of women's participation in society."

She also pointed out that the impressive "sustained development gains of the last several decades can be directly attributed to women's enhanced education, activism, and community participation."

"The last three generations of our women have taken advantage of new opportunities presented successively by national independence, development and political liberalisation," the Queen said.

"At the family and community level, women have played a central role in changing their society; in turn, society has offered them opportunities to broaden their personal and professional activities and to heighten their aspirations," she added.

The Queen said that "the women of the Middle East are likely to play increasingly important roles as catalysts of change, national reconciliation and solidarity, and as agents of stability and development."

Queen Noor emphasised the value of "the traditional woman's role as the anchor of the family."

"This pivotal

role has probably been the single most important factor for social stability and communal identity in Middle Eastern cultures," she said.

In addition, she highlighted the need for the West to address the status of Middle Eastern women in the context of their own social and cultural structure. This includes eliminating the stereotypes of the peoples of the Middle East and of Islam.

After all, the Queen said, "many of the personal rights that women in the West obtained during the last two centuries were guaranteed to and practised by Muslim women over 1,400 years ago."

Accompanying Queen Noor to the conference were Their Royal Highnesses Prince Talal Bin Mohammad and Princess Ghida Talal, Jordan's Ambassador to the United Nations Adnan Abu Odeh and Mrs. Abu Odeh, Senator Leila Sharaf, and the Queen's mother, Mrs. Doris Halaby. Also present was Mrs. Boutros Ghali and other members of the diplomatic corps.



RSCN to publish book on birds of Middle East

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) announced Saturday that it will soon publish a book on the birds of Jordan and the Middle East with funding from the World Bank's Global Environment Facility.

The announcement was made by RSCN Director Maher Abu Jaafar upon the conclusion of a visit to Jordan by Richard Porter, an expert from the Bird Life International organisation.

The book will cover the most important community of birds settled in the Middle East and the migrant birds passing through the region, including Jordan, said Mr. Abu Jaafar.

Also, planned by the RSCN is a series of schemes that would be implemented in the Kingdom in cooperation with Bird Life International, said Mr. Abu Jaafar in a statement to the Jordan Times.

Mr. Porter was briefed by the RSCN on its bird watching committee which encouraged the hobby, particularly among school children. He also discussed cooperation with RSCN President Anis Muasher.

New gas, diesel turbines to increase power generation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A consortium of Franco-Japanese firms

Saturday won a contract from the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) to procure and install three gas and diesel-driven turbines to boost electric power generation.

JEA Director Mohammad Saeed Arafah told the Jordan Times that the JD30 million project will be financed partly from a \$15 million French soft loan and partly from JEA resources and local borrowing.

One of the turbines will be installed at Rishesh, the main natural gas field in the country; the other two will be installed at Arish, some 35 kilometres north of Zarqa, and will be driven by gas and oil, said Mr. Arafah.

At present the three gas turbines currently producing 130 megawatts of electric power needs, according to Mr. Arafah.

The Arish plant, which is currently producing 130 megawatts of electric power, will increase power generation by at least 10 per cent to cope with the growing demand resulting from the southern region's economic growth.

Islamists are not running in a tribal district

(Continued from page 1)

consensus.

"Fawaz is reportedly spending a lot of money on the campaign which is going to backfire on him and the Zoubis whose majority appears to be in favour of Ibrahim," according to one observer of the campaign in Ramtha.

The only Jordanian of Palestinian origin contesting a seat in Ramtha is Abdul Nabi (Duweikat), an architect whose chances in this district of tribal affiliations appear to be slim.

"Only because they (the Palestinians) wanted to avoid pressure from the other candidates, that they fielded one of their own," said Mohammad Na'eem, a farmer from Ramtha. "Abdul Nabi does not stand a chance. There are not enough Palestinians to vote for him around here."

Suleiman Ubeidallah, an orthopaedic surgeon residing in Amman, is the candidate of the "independents" as they are called in Ramtha, which number about 1,300. The "independents" are those who belong to neither the Zoubis nor the fallahs.

Hassan Shboul, a lawyer, comes from the village of Shajarah, where there are a lot of Zoubis who are expected to vote in favour of Ibrahim Samara.

Fawaz Hassan Rabee', Saleh Tawalbeh and Saleh Darabsheh, who come from

relatively small families, are expected to win only the votes of their immediate relatives.

In Bani Kenanah, which comprises 18 villages, seven of which are predominantly Zoubi (about 3,000 eligible voters), Talal Obeidat, also a retired army general, is the candidate favoured by many and most likely to secure a seat.

Dr. Qaseem Obeidat, the former deputy and minister of labour, rejected the results of the preliminary elections held by the Obeidats which resulted in the choice of Talal Obeidat and decided to run independently.

"Qaseem did not respect the democratic method which we adopted, and which is the same that got him to Parliament in 1989. He won by 9,200 votes, which means

Islamists likely to retain seats

(Continued from page 1)

from independent Islamists, it is difficult for the Brotherhood to gain the same influence it had in the 11th Parliament.

The IAF experts say, will have to concentrate its votes on specific candidates at the expense of its supporters from the Islamic stream or from other affiliations. This will consequently reduce the front's chances of bringing more supporters to Parliament.

In addition, the IAF will

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Opinion & Analysis

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1993

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Different House, one agenda

THERE IS no doubt in anybody's mind that the 12th Parliament which Jordanians will elect tomorrow will be different from its predecessor, in both strength and composition. That much has already been made clear by the direction, or lack of it, of the election campaigns that ended officially last night.

The role of the Lower House has since 1989 been determined gradually, and ironically, by the 11th Parliament itself, which gave the government a larger say on determining the kind of key laws that regulate the democratic experiment and other aspects of running the affairs of state.

The previous Parliament planted the seeds of its weakness with its own hands. Laws pertaining to the regulation of Political Parties and the Press were basically designed by the government but were passed by the 11th Parliament with little opposition.

The one-person, one-vote amendment to the Election Law will most probably limit the influence of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and like-minded political groups that oppose the peace process. Had that single amendment not been introduced, the IAF could have been able to lead a coalition of rejectionists who would have made any peace agreement with Israel impossible. With a weakened anti-peace camp in tomorrow's Parliament, the government, any future government, would have a simpler task pursuing a peace option that would minimise the damage to Jordan and place the country's interests on top of its agenda. Surely it would be very difficult for any government to negotiate the future of the country with Israel, the U.S. and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) with a House breathing "no-peace" down its neck.

But with the majority of the new deputies expected to support the peace process, the government and the House could also make it a point to work harder for enhancing democracy. This task should not be lost in the exchange of blame and rhetoric over the peace process. Our parliamentarians must understand that the leadership will use its negotiating skills to ensure that peace in the region will be in the interest of Jordan and the Arab Nation at large. Reasonable opposition in Parliament will certainly help the government in its task.

Meanwhile, the new House needs to recognise at the outset of its four-year term that its main duty is to consolidate and enhance the country's democratic process and institutions. While Parliament can do little to change policy on strategic objectives of the state, it can achieve a great deal of progress on the internal front, particularly in terms of progressive legislation and in institution-building. The coming four years will be crucial for Jordan, the Palestinians and the region. Neither Parliament, nor the government should spend these years on unnecessary squabbles and futile arguments that would not in the end have to concern us.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Saturday said that the real battle with the enemy is being fought at the political level and therefore the Arabs and the Palestinians have to exert all efforts to win it by ensuring the greatest gains. The Arabs realise now that a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict does not guarantee all their rights because the whole world is supporting the Israelis and continues to condone its arrogance and support its military superiority over the Arab Nation. We went to Madrid at the start of the peace process for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of UN resolutions 242 and 338 and under the impression that the world community is now inclined to favour peace over war and to implement the international legitimacy, said the paper. Therefore, the paper said, our aspiration for peace is legitimate and our endeavours to ensure a lasting settlement are a national requirement. For this reason, added the paper, the Jordanians, the Palestinians, the Syrians and the Lebanese are determined to pursue the negotiations with the Israelis and with the world community at large in order to reach an acceptable peace formula that would bring about security and stability and ensure the return of Arab rights.

A COLUMNIST in AL DUSTOUR Saturday demanded that the Arab Nation halt any moves towards normalisation of relations with the Israelis until they have withdrawn all their forces from the occupied Arab lands. Mohammad Kawash said that nothing has been done towards achieving real peace despite the signing of the PLO-Israel deal. Everything seems to have remained untouched although the Israelis have succeeded, to some extent, in opening the door for normalising its relations with Arab countries and opening talks aimed at economic cooperation, said the writer. Not a single Israeli soldier has been pulled out from the Arab territories at a time when Israel seems to be determined to redeploy its troops on occupied Arab land instead of withdrawing them under the pretext that it wants to provide protection to the Jewish settlements, the writer pointed out. In light of this situation, and as we witness Israel planting mines in the path of peace, it is incumbent on the Arab governments to stop displaying good intentions until the Israeli government has yielded not only to the PLO demands but also those along the other Israeli-Arab tracks.

Sunday Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

U.N. report should serve as incentive for bettering life in Jordan

According to the tables presented in the World Human Development Report (1993), issued by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the per capita gross national product (GNP) in Jordan was estimated at \$1,640, which places Jordan in a respectable place among nations. Two thirds of human beings are poorer than we are, while one third of mankind is richer. Our place on an accelerating scale of 100 in per capita income is at the point of 66.6.

The poorest people in the world are the Mozambique people, and the richest are the Swiss. Among the Arab countries, the people of Somalia are at the bottom of the list, with an average of \$170 per capita, and the people of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are at the top with an average annual income of \$18,450 per capita. Thus, the income of an average UAE national equals the income of 108 Somali citizens or 11 Jordanians.

However, the per capita income is but one factor in the human development. The international human development index gave the following indicators for Jordan:

Among 160 countries covered by the report, Jordan is in the 86th position. Average life expectancy at birth is 66.9 years. Eighty point one per cent of adults are able to read and write, the average gross domestic product (GDP) per capita after adjustment for purchasing power parity (PPP) is \$2,415 and the overall index of human development in Jordan is 58.6 per cent.

The report states that 97 per cent of the Jordanian population have access to medical services, 99 per cent have drinkable water and that the average Jordanian consumes food enough to give him 118 per cent of the calories required. The purchasing power of money in Jordan is 47.3 per cent higher than the world average, therefore the per capita income of \$1,640 is actually equivalent to \$2,415 because the price level of goods and services in Jordan is lower than the worldwide level by 32.1 per cent.

Comparing Jordan's human situation in 1990 to what it used to be 30 years ago, the report concluded that the average life of the Jordanian increased by 42.6 per cent, infant mortality rate declined by 76 per cent, the food calories intake rose by 26.9 per cent and the per capita income rate by 115.6 per cent in real terms, i.e., after allowing for inflation, an improvement

of 2.6 per annum.

If we compare Jordan's human state of affairs with that of the industrialised countries in the North, we find that the average Jordanian has 90 per cent of life expectancy, 88 per cent of the nutritional calories, 82 per cent of education, 16 per cent of the gross domestic product, 12 per cent of gross national product, 50 per cent of the educational years, 11 per cent of the nurses per one thousand of population, 33 per cent of family planning, 37 per cent of contraceptives, 40 per cent of medical doctors, and 16 per cent of the newspaper circulation relative to population.

The report estimated that each 1,000 Jordanians (or 150 families) own 252 radios, 77 television sets and 53 copies of daily newspapers.

The population under the line of poverty is estimated at 17 per cent, the ratio of public expenditure on education is 5.9 per cent, on public health 2.7 per cent. The foreign aid received by Jordan amounts to 16.7 per cent of GNP (1990) or \$221 per capita (1989). Jordan's foreign indebtedness was 181 per cent of GNP (1989), which put Jordan on the sixth place in indebtedness and the first if you exclude African debtor countries.

The report found that there are 2.1 soldiers for each teacher, or 26 soldiers for each physician. Taxes take 15.3 per cent of GNP (1989) and direct taxes make 13.4 per cent of total taxes.

This in summary is the state of affairs of human development in Jordan. In this respect, Jordan ranks as number one among non oil Arab countries, but ranks as number 10 among all Arab countries.

Of course, there is large room for improvement and further development. It is not good enough to say that Jordan today is far better than it used to be several decades ago. This should be taken for granted. The comparison must be made with other countries which improved also, some of them faster than we did.

The United Nations' annual report on the state of all countries of the world regarding human development will work as an effective incentive to speed up the race for better life for the people.

ADL rallies to subvert Mideast peace

By Jeffrey Steinberg

The following article is reprinted from the Oct. 22 issue of Washington Weekly Executive Intelligence Review:

Where the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) really stands on the issue of Middle East peace was answered on Oct. 10 at the Gateway Marriott Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia. Under the auspices of the American Leadership Conference, a collection of ADL operatives and hangers-on gathered to rail against the Rabin-Arafat accord and to launch a drive to reinstate the Likud Party in power under the direction of Benjamin Netanyahu, a staunch opponent of the land-for-peace plan. Among the speakers were several with longstanding ADL ties:

—Dr. Uri Ra'an, the patron of convicted Israeli-Soviet spy Jonathan Jay Pollard and the one-time Israeli intelligence liaison to B'nai B'rith. Dr. Ra'an, who was recruited and trained by British intelligence in the 1950s before immigrating to Israel, headed the national security studies programme at the Fletcher School of Diplomacy at Tufts University in the late 1970s and shepherded both Pollard and ADL operative Mira Lansky Boland into jobs with Naval Intelligence and the CIA, respectively. In the early 1960s Dr. Ra'an, then with the Israeli embassy in Washington, was caught setting up a Mossad spy right at B'nai B'rith headquarters. Dr. Ra'an has been a frequent lecturer at ADL-sponsored seminars on

Arab terrorism.

Rael Jean Isaac, a founder of Americans for a Safe Israel, an author frequently published by the ADL, and a speaker at ADL forums on terrorism. For years Mrs. Isaac and her husband worked closely with John Rees, a British-born spook who acknowledges that his front group, the Mardon Institute, is heavily bankrolled by the ADL.

Yossi Bodansky, a one-time analyst for Israeli Air Force Intelligence and currently the director of the House Republican Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare. Mr. Bodansky is also the director of Middle East analysis at Rees's Mardon Institute and penned a March 1993 propaganda tome called Target America: Terrorism in the U.S. Today, based on information fed to him by hardliners inside the Israeli Defence Force who are seeking to foment a holy war against Islam. The same IDF intelligence channels authored a December 1992 report that was published by the ADL claiming that the United States was harbouring Islamic fundamentalist terrorist networks.

Other speakers at the rally for war included Midge Decter, Eugene Rostow, Douglas Feith and Harvey Friedman. Mr. Friedman was a vice president of the America-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) until last summer, when he was forced to resign over a foul-mouthed public attack against Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, a leading go-between in the secret talks with the PLO.

Any thoughts of peace were absent at the Crystal City symposium. Speaker after speaker

Familiar role for ADL

The presence of so many ADL fellow-travellers at the neo-conservative anti-peace rally is hardly a surprise. As early as 1975, the ADL was engaged in a vicious propaganda war against political economist Lyndon LaRouche because of his proposal for a durable peace in the Middle East based on economic development. Mr. LaRouche travelled to Baghdad in the spring of 1975 and later held a series of meetings in New York City with senior Israeli government officials, including Foreign Minister and U.N. Ambassador Abba Eban, to discuss details of his economic development plan. ADL considered this treachery and spent millions of dollars to smear Mr. LaRouche as an anti-Semitic and seek his elimination.

Mrs. Isaac screamed that even the Camp David Accords were too much, arguing that Egypt was the most anti-Semitic country in the world and that President Hosni Mubarak had broken every clause of Camp David.

Midge Decter called any talk of peace "sinful." Only a massive Israeli military deterrent, she argued, can keep peace with a permanently hostile Arab World. "Animosity" is the only path to security, she said.

Despite the rhetoric, the general mood among the 500 or so Zionist hardliners who attended the event was demoralisation over the dramatic progress towards peace and the apparent widespread support the Rabin-Arafat agreements have won among Israelis and Palestinians alike.

The ADL meeting is, however, a warning for those who are toying with the idea of bringing in the World Bank or other wrecker-institutions to direct the economic features of the accord. If the peace process falters, there are plenty of zealots, like the ADLers who gathered at the Marriott, who are prepared to take any steps, including terrorism and provoking regional war, to prevent the realisation of peace in the Middle East.

rose to denounce the Rabin-Arafat accords and at least five members of the Jewish Defense League were allowed to speak from the floor in support of the policy of "mass transfers," i.e., the forced violent expulsion of all Palestinians from the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Israel.

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LETTERS

Selective elections?

To the Editor:

Though the freedom of the individual is prized above all in a democratic society, our experience of democratic elections is proving otherwise. The freedom of the individual seems to be a superficial kind of freedom. We are two kinds of people: those who are dominating and those who are dominated.

We, as individuals, are still ruled by attitudes which exhibit themselves in such forms as racial characteristic, class prejudices, public opinion, etc... so much so that little originality and personal courage are to be found in each individual's decision on who to elect. X votes for Y because he is a friend of the family, or because he is of the same ethnic background, the same class or the same creed. Little consideration is given to the candidate's merits, beliefs, honesty and dedication to serve the country and its people.

Are we so dominated by group psychology and group authority that we can no longer truly practise our own right of freedom of choice? I am not suggesting that one should detach from one's own group to the point of alienation. What I am advocating is that each individual should recognise as having to practise his or her right to be free from all kind of domination over true, and not superficial, freedom of intellect, without which anyone's vote is worthless.

We are being faced with not only an intellectual challenge, but also with a challenge that has serious political, social and economic consequences. We have a great responsibility towards our society and ourselves and that can only be met when and if we start taking responsibility for our own decisions and choices. Rather than think of ourselves as having to behave as we do because of the circumstances and positions in which we find ourselves, we should grab this chance to adopt a policy that invites us to see ourselves as producing those "social facts" the absence of which we are always complaining about.

Natasha Bukhari,
P.O. Box 364,
Amman.

Majority against bigotry

To the Editor:

After hearing and reading arguments mainly condemning Dr. Labib Kamhawi for what he said in a CNN report last week, I thought not enough light was being shed on what his partner in the programme, Dr. Fahed Fanek, had to say.

If Dr. Kamhawi's critics thought he had said anything wrong in that report, I don't think that many people, be they Jordanians or Jordanians of Palestinian origin, would have agreed with Dr. Fanek's views (or information) either. Therefore, it is more important and more useful for all of us to try to deal with an issue as sensitive as the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship in a fair and objective manner, which requires a more open and frank debate instead of monologues of criticism and slander, or even threats from any party against the other.

One thing upon which both Dr. Kamhawi and Dr. Fanek agreed in their TV debate was that the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship was always widely discussed in private, but never had its fair share of open, public debate — which, I believe, has contributed to it becoming such a sensitive subject, partially causing such unwarranted reactions as we have seen on CNN.

Throughout the history of that relationship, which is both rich and long, there were and will always be Jordanians who fought and will fight for Palestine and the Palestinians, and who consider Palestine as their own home, being part of the big Arab Nation, and they are as such "more Palestinian than the Palestinians." By the same token, there were and will always be Palestinians who are "more Jordanian than the Jordanians," by virtue of their love for this country. I like to consider myself in the majority of people who share the same reasonable ideas and principles about the relationship.

This majority believes that anybody, be he or she the Jordanian or Palestinian, or of any other national or religious background, who promotes or provokes discrimination and provincialism should be rejected and dismissed from our ranks. Extreme ideas and positions are not for us, for moderation and reasonableness have been the hallmark of this country and its citizens throughout its modern history and before. It is time therefore to initiate a serious and civilised debate on the matter at hand, since I think a big part of the problem stems from the subject being swept under the carpet for a very long time. A public and frank debate on Jordanian-Palestinian relations can only enhance and serve the national unity of our country's citizens.

I would urge the Jordan Times itself to set a precedent by opening a constructive dialogue on this issue, if only to break the ice between the two sides and encourage other media outlets in Jordan to do the same.

Mohammad Atiyeh,
P.O. Box 62673,
Amman

Need for farsightedness

To the Editor:

"Who is a Jordanian anyway?"

I believe Dr. Kamhawi's frustrated and bitter question deserves a simple answer rather than a lecture on gratitude.

A Jordanian is the only Arab who has scars and wounds where his Palestinian brother was beaten and who always feels the utmost pain seeing his ingenious twin-brother running again.

A Jordanian is the one who does not need to belittle or hurt or trample on others to know who he himself is.

And last but not least, a Jordanian is someone who wishes Dr. Kamhawi whole-heartedly that before too long he too will come to know not only what he is, but also who he is.

To the antagonists in this as passionate as pointless a debate about who owes whom what I would like to recommend warmly Mahatma Gandhi's word: "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind."

I believe it is obvious that Jordanians and Palestinians are not of far-sighted politicians and experts, not blind ones.

Elinor Kaiser-Mohammed,
P.O. Box 540383,
Abu Nuseir.</p

African leaders sign common market pact

KAMPALA (AFP) — Leaders of 15 eastern and southern African countries have signed a treaty here to establish a common market by the year 2000 after hours of bargaining.

But Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe refused to sign, saying the relationship between the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development and Coordinating Conference (SADC) had not been clarified.

His objection disrupted the summit Friday of the 18-member preferential trade area (PTA), a regional free trade organisation now disbanded and reformed as COMESA.

But the other leaders decided to go ahead anyway and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said experts were studying the relationship between the two organisations.

South Africa, which has been asked to join COMESA after multiracial elections planned next year, sent observers

to the summit, attended by 10 heads of state and senior officials from another six nations.

COMESA Secretary-General Bingi Mutharika told the summit that the decision to establish a common market would help member countries "achieve balanced growth and development."

The treaty listed COMESA's aims as helping national economies overcome structural economic weaknesses such as a slow rate of capital accumulation, insufficient industrial development and underdevelopment in agriculture, transport and communications.

Mr. Mutharika said COMESA would try new strategies to boost regional trade and solve economic problems.

He said 11 years' experience with the PTA had shown that countries in the region could not produce adequate goods that could be traded in the international market at competitive prices.

COMESA, he added, will encourage private enterprise to

operate in a competitive environment to produce high quality goods.

He urged member countries to abandon reliance on exports of primary agricultural products and instead to transform them into finished goods.

This is the only way to minimise external economic destabilisation resulting from the decline and fluctuations in prices of primary commodity exports to industrialised countries," Mr. Mutharika said.

COMESA brings together a population of 270 million people, nearly half of Africa's population, with a gross national product of about \$250 billion a year.

Eritrea, Seychelles and Madagascar, which were not PTA members, have joined COMESA. The other members are Angola, Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Russian privatisation vouchers hit record high

MOSCOW (R) — Privatisation vouchers, the seeds for a Russian securities market, hit a record high on the Moscow and St. Petersburg exchanges Friday in what dealers said was a sign of market confidence in President Boris Yeltsin.

The price of the voucher distributed to the people last year to be used in Russia's privatisation programme, doubled to 24,000 roubles (\$20.4) from 12,000 (\$10.2) last week.

Dealers said the immediate factor behind the jump was a share offer in the northern Russian oil giant Yuganskneftegaz which is auctioning 12 per cent of its shares to the public.

"Lots of big buyers have appeared on the market, mostly intermediaries buying for other enterprises," said Stanislav Grankin, chief analyst at Russian Investment Fund LLD.

Yuganskneftegaz is the first major sale in a series of oil-related privatisations. Dealers said at least 1,000 firms were to be privatised at auctions.

They noted that commercial banks were picking up

vouchers to speculate on the market and foreign investors were also showing an interest in the auctions.

The voucher, with a face value of 10,000 roubles (\$8.5), was trading at only 7,000 roubles (\$6) four months ago. But market confidence was boosted in October when Mr. Yeltsin crushed his hardline opponents in parliament.

The dissolved Soviet-era parliament had tried to block privatisations which were a major plank of government reforms aimed at transforming Russia's post-communist economy.

"After the parliament was dissolved, the main bearish factor on the market just disappeared," said Igor Ilyinich, a senior official at Moscow's Central Universal Exchange.

The market has also been encouraged by a steady double exchange rate against the dollar. Due to tight central bank policies the dollar gained only two per cent against the rouble in October, against monthly inflation of over 20 per cent.

And with a 30 per cent rise last month, the increase in

voucher prices exceeded inflation for the first time ever.

Bankers said the enthusiasm for vouchers was a taste of things to come in Russia's emerging securities markets.

Despite tiny volumes, banks and corporates have started trading treasury bills and gold-backed certificates which were introduced by the government earlier this year.

Vouchers were given free to 140 million Russians in 1992 to be used to buy shares in some 10,000 medium-to-large firms slated for sale, about half of Russia's industrial capital.

"There are many firms to be privatised soon. The government is expected to announce details of more sell-offs on Nov. 18 and that's one of the reasons for high demand," said Mr. Grankin.

Demand has been rising slowly but surely since August when the government auctioned several smaller oil firms hotels and factories in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Mr. Yeltsin ordered all state firms to auction a minimum 29 per cent stake to the public.

"It's a quarterly effect. Many of those given notice during the third quarter did not show up in the figures until now," he said.

The Nuremberg-based Labour Office also reported that the number of short-time workers in west Germany rose to 660,000 in October from 590,000 in September.

Economists said they ex-

pected the ranks of the unem-

ployed to swell by total of

about half a million this year.

An expected slight recovery

in economic growth should

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ple losing their jobs, but few

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Unemployment is a so-called

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tinues rising for some time

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Economics Minister Guen-

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Owned 60 per cent by the

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UAE to expand communications sector

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has approved more than \$400 million to expand its communications sector to meet a surge in demand, Al Ittihad said Saturday.

A project to build a marine cable link with Iran, Kuwait and Bahrain will be completed by 1995 and there are plans to boost the telephone and telegraphic network. Ali Al Oweis of the telecommunication company Etisalat told the paper.

Around 240 million dirhams (\$65.3 million) have been allocated for four new telephone networks and 1.3 billion dirhams (\$354 million) for other development projects over the next two years. Sheikh Oweis said.

"1994 will also see the introduction of the advanced international mobile telephone system GSM with a capacity of 60,000 lines while 135,000 pa-

ges will be added," said Sheikh Oweis, whose company

runs more than 500,000 tele-

phone and telegraphic lines in

the UAE.

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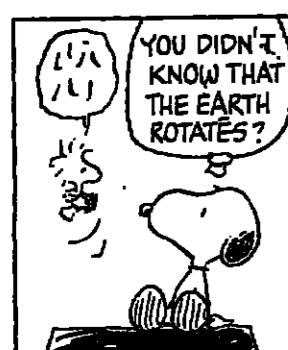
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Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



British cabinet spends £15m a year on booze

LONDON (R) — Newspapers dubbed the British government a "drunks cabinet" Saturday after an opposition politician said ministers had spent a record £15.6 million (\$23 million) on entertainment last year.

Labour member of parliament Tony Banks compiled figures which showed the cabinet entertainment budget last year was some £4 million (\$6 million) higher than the previous record of £11.5 million (\$17 million) two years ago.

"While the government is busy cutting people's benefits and slashing other areas of government spending, they are now revealed as a bunch of total hypocrites," Mr. Banks said, seizing on Prime Minister John Major's spending cuts.

"Everybody else is being made worse off while they are increasing their own entertaining allowance," Mr. Banks said. The Sun's front-page headline was "Major's £15 million drinks cabinet — scandal of soaring booze bill" while the Daily Mirror's was "Major's drinks cabinet blows £15 million a year on booze."

Conservative Party sources said the entertainment bill had been affected by Britain's six-month presidency of the European Community last year.

German unemployment climbs to 2.45 million

BONN (R) — German unemployment rose sharply to record levels in October, the Federal Labour Office said Friday, and economists said many more jobs would be lost before the economy recovered.

The Labour Office said west German seasonally adjusted joblessness rose by nearly 60,000 to 2.45 million — the highest October figure in the federal republic's history and the highest for any month since German unification in 1990.

The unemployment rate, based on unadjusted figures, rose to 7.6 per cent from 7.4 per cent in September.

East German unadjusted unemployment rose by a more modest 6,000 to 1.17 million, a jobless rate of 15.3 per cent.

Economists had expected a rise of around 35,000 in west German unemployment.

"It was a lot bigger than we had expected," said Werner Verboeket of Commerzbank in Frankfurt.

Another economist said the rise in west Germany was probably due to many lay-offs taking effect at the end of the third quarter.

"It's a quarterly effect. Many of those given notice during the third quarter did not show up in the figures until now," he said.

The Nuremberg-based Labour Office also reported that the number of short-time workers in west Germany rose to 660,000 in October from 590,000 in September.

Economists said they expected the ranks of the unemployed to swell by total of about half a million this year.

An expected slight recovery in economic growth should slow the rate of increase next year, with about 200,000 people losing their jobs, but few economists see unemployment starting to fall until 1995.

Unemployment is a so-called lagging indicator, which continues rising for some time after recession has ended.

Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt has said total German unemployment will continue to rise to more than four million at the beginning of next year.

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Economy

China expects boom in advertising sales

BEIJING (AP) — Spending on advertising in China will soar over the next decade to reach 28 billion yuan (\$4.9 billion) per year by the century's end, a Chinese official predicted Friday.

Liu Baofu, director of the advertising department under the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, said advertising spending will total eight billion yuan (\$1.3 billion) this year, and is growing at an annual rate of 60 per cent.

Mr. Liu was speaking to more than 200 Chinese business-

men and government officials at a daylong seminar on the power of advertising sponsored by Dentsu, Young and Rubicam Partnerships.

The seminar included a sampling of advertisements made for American, Japanese and Chinese consumers, which drew some laughs and gasps when shown on a large movie-screen.

Mr. Liu said the government eventually plans to cut funding to state-run advertising agencies, which dominate the industry, in order to weed out the less professional ones.

A number of foreign advertising companies have entered the China market since the mid-1980s hoping to cash in on the country's rapid economic growth, only to discover that many Chinese companies are reluctant to spend money on advertising.

That is starting to change, said Gary Burandt, president of Dentsu, Young and Rubicam. He said his agency's clients in China include Shanghai-based vitamin and chocolate makers, as well as foreign-Chinese joint ventures.

Another barrier to growth is the government's strict limit on the amount of newspaper space and television time that can be devoted to advertising.

"There needs to be more advertising time made available," Mr. Burandt said. He said that inevitably will happen as China develops a market economy.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET					
MORNING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDANIA TELEPHONE: 660172 / 663170 ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 06/11/1993					
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED	PREV.	OPENING	CLOSING	PRICE
	IN JODA	IN JODA	IN JODA	IN JODA	IN JODA
ABRA BANK	207,990	180,100	181,000	182,100	182,100
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	1,652,466	31,200	31,200	31,200	31,200
CAIRO JORDAN BANK	1,652,466	31,200	31,200	34,600	34,600
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT BANK	30,404	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
THE HOUSING BANK	30,178	5,650	5,670	5,670	5,670
THE JORDAN BANK	32,178	5,650	5,670	5,670	5,670
ABRAJ JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	3,950	4,000	3,950	3,950	3,950
ABRAJ JORDAN TRADE BANK	5,515	4,450	4,450	4,450	4,450
ABRAJ BANK	2,565	5,350	5,400	5,400	5,400
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	2,565	5,350	5,400	5,400	5,400
ABRAJ BANK FOR INVESTMENT	44,007	1,770	1,810	1,810	1,810
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	6,591	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,550
ABRAJ BANK FOR INVESTMENT	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
JORDAN INSURANCE & REINSURANCE	8,143	3,400	3,400	3,450	3,450
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	322	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	2,400	4,840	4,800	4,800	4,800
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	6,293	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200
TRIED DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	5,505	1,240	1,300	1,350	1,350
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	2,797	1,250	1,300	1,350	1,350
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	4,986	4,800	4,900	4,900	4,900
JORDAN TOURISM & SPA COMPLEX	6,415	1,100	1,150	1,150	1,150
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	7,945	2,810	2,860	2,860	2,860
JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM	2,202	1,420	1,450	1,450	1,450
JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM	7,945	2,810	2,860	2,860	2,860
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
THE JORDAN LIGHT FACTORIES	140,137	3,010	3,050	3,090	3,090
JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES	805	3,200	3,250	3,250	3,250
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
THE INDUSTRIAL CHEMICAL & AGRICULTURAL	3,100	7,710	7,750	7,750	7,750
THE JORDAN WOOLTEX MILLS	1,323	11,250	11,100	11,250	11,250
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	3,563	7,400	7,400	7,450	7,450
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	2,970	3,700	3,650	3,700	3,700
THE JORDAN PETRO MANUFACTURING	1,300	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	14,569	6,380	6,380	6,400	6,400
BAK AL DAIRY DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	9,327	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	86,945	10,200	10,150	10,450	10,450
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	2,723	5,200	5,180	5,200	5,200
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	78,137	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	11,395	6,650	6,650	6,650	6,650
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT	8,250	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,250
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	8,625	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,250
ABRAJ LIFE & AUTO INSURANCE	11,058	3,720	3,720	3,720	3,720
JORDAN CENTER FOR PETRO & CHEMICALS	18,317	1,420	1,420	1,420	1,420
JORDAN IRON & CO. FOR AGRI. & FOOD PROD.	82,299	5,160	5,170	5,160	5,160
UNIVERSAL MOLDS INDUSTRIES	82,299	5,160	5,170	5,160	5,160
GRAND TOTAL	3,000,001				
NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET	1,62144				
TRADED VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET	1 JD	69556			

Financial Markets		Jordan Times	
in co-operation with		Cairo Amman Bank	
U.S. Dollar in International Markets			
Currency	New York Close	New York Close	
	Date: 5/11/1993	Date: 5/11/1993	
U.S. Dollar	1.0700	1.0700	
Sterling Pound	1.0565	1.0417	
Deutsche Mark	0.4125	0.4149	
Swiss Franc	0.4375	0.4698	
French Franc	0.1168	0.1193	
Japanese Yen	2.43	2.51	
European Currency Unit	7.25	7.06	
	6.87	6.87	
U.S. per SGD			
European Opening + 0.00 a.m. GMT			
Foreign currency interest rates			
	Date: 5/11/1993		
Currencies	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.7000	0.7020	
Sterling Pound	1.0565	1.0417	
Deutsche Mark	0.4125	0.4149	
Swiss Franc	0.4375	0.4698	
French Franc	0.1168	0.1193	
Japanese Yen	2.43	2.51	
European Currency Unit	7.25	7.06	
	6.87	6.87	
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin			
	Date: 6/11/1993		
Currencies	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.7000	0.7020	
Sterling Pound	1.0565	1.0417	
Deutsche Mark	0.4125	0.4149	
Swiss Franc	0.4375	0.4698	
French Franc	0.1168	0.1193	
Japanese Yen	2.43	2.51	
European Currency Unit	7.25	7.06	
	6.87	6.87	
Other Currencies	Bid	Offer	
Deutsche Mark	1.5505	1.5600	
Swiss Franc	0.040245	0.041275	
Deutsche Mark	0.1861	0.1882	
Kuwait Dinar	0.0240	0.0260	
Qatari Riyal	0.1940	0.1920	
Yemeni Rial	0.2050	0.2020	
Qatari Riyal	1.7790	1.8270	
Qatari Riyal	0.1890	0.1920	
YEM. Dinar	0.2050	0.2020	
Qatari Riyal	0.2785	0.2855	
Qatari Riyal	1.3445	1.3855	
	Date: 6/11/1993		
Currencies	Bid	Offer	
Deutsche Mark	1.5505	1.5600	
Swiss Franc	0.040245	0.041275	
Deutsche Mark	0.1861	0.1882	
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Qatari Riyal	0.1940	0.1920	
Yemeni Rial	0.2050	0.2020	
Qatari Riyal	1.7790	1.8270	
Qatari Riyal	0.1890	0.1920	
YEM. Dinar	0.2050	0.2020	
Qatari Riyal	0.2785	0.2855	
	Date: 6/11/1993		

Oman sees \$2.3 billion deficit in 1991-95 development plan

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Gulf state of Oman expects a deficit of more than \$2 billion in its 1991-95 development plan but it will be fully financed locally, an Omani official was quoted as saying.

The deficit, which has persisted for eight years, was projected at \$79 million Omanis (\$2.285 billion) while expenditure was revised up to round \$26.7 billion from \$24.5 billion, said Hamad bin Hilal Al Habsi, finance and economy ministry undersecretary.

The 1991-1995 development plan is Oman's fourth since it struck oil in early 1970s. The plans are mainly financed from oil exports, which stood at 750,000 barrels per day in 1992 and fetched nearly \$3.5 billion.

Officials said the plans had achieved their objectives in hastening economic growth and lessening reliance on oil as an unstable and depleting

source of income. The focus was on the mining, farming and industrial sectors.

Yeltsin opposes early presidential elections, offers to retire in 1996

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin stated Saturday he was against holding an early presidential poll in June but offered to retire from politics altogether once his tenure was completed in 1996, news agencies reported.

Mr. Yeltsin, speaking at a meeting of news editors, announced he did not plan to seek a second term as president after his mandate expires in June of 1996, stating that he had suffered "too many blows".

The Russian leader said that he was against holding a presidential election in June, backtracking on an earlier promise to hold a vote six months after parliamentary elections to the new parliament.

"We all know that I have suffered many blows at the hands of destiny. It is too much for one person to endure," the Russian leader was quoted by Interfax as saying.

Mr. Yeltsin said he considered it "his task" to "find and prepare" new candidates to the presidency and that he would work towards rallying popular support for his chosen successor.

His remarks appeared as a concession to opponents who could be convinced to drop the early presidential vote in exchange for Mr. Yeltsin's retirement from politics.

Mr. Yeltsin stated earlier this month that he would allow the new parliament which is to be elected on Dec. 12 to decide if the presidential election were to go ahead but he stop-

ped short of giving his own opinion on the issue.

"I am against new elections to the presidency in June 1994." Mr. Yeltsin clearly stated during the meeting, adding: "I am in favour of allowing the president to fully serve out his term up until 1996."

He predicted that victory will not be easy for candidates to the presidency, adding that "those who now say they want to become president are mistaken if they think that this will be easy to achieve."

Mr. Yeltsin announced a presidential election for June 12 in the days following his decision to dissolve the old-guard parliament as a concession to regional leaders who charged he was seeking to set up a dictatorship.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar, who leads the Russia's Choice coalition in the parliamentary elections, said in a newspaper interview published Saturday that he was "cautious" in predicting the outcome of the vote.

"I am not euphoric. I am awaiting the new parliament with great caution," Mr. Gaidar stated in an interview to the Russian newspaper Moskovsky Komsomolets.

Mr. Gaidar stated that the voters would choose between three main platforms in the Dec. 12 election: Communist, conservative and reformist.

Experts have predicted that candidates running under the Russia's Choice banner, which calls itself the "presidential

party" will win at least one-third of the seats in the lower house of parliament, or Duma.

It remains unclear however what percentage of the vote Communists and nationalists, who generally enjoy support in the provinces, will gather.

"These elections are crucial for Russia," Mr. Gaidar commented, stating that the country was forced to abandon two parliaments — the Soviet legislature in 1991 and the old-guard parliament in 1993 — and that it would be "unforgivable" to lose a third legislature.

The 450 members of the new state Duma will be tasked with approving President Boris Yeltsin's choice of a prime minister who will head the government in its third year of economic reforms.

A leading Russian Communist politician said Friday that a group of armed masked men entered his party headquarters and stole petitions bearing 20,000 signatures needed for participation in the upcoming elections, Interfax said.

Sergei Baburin, president of the Russian People's Union, claimed three of the men were wearing uniforms of Interior Ministry crack security troops while three others were in civilian clothes and one was carrying a Kalashnikov automatic rifle.

Mr. Baburin, a hardline deputy in the former Russian parliament who was briefly arrested after the parliamentary revolt was crushed last month, claimed the assailants

spent 40 minutes in the building and blocked all inside from leaving, the report said.

Those in the building included Viktor Alksnis and Yevgeny Kogan, two known political hardliners who were deputies in the legislature of the former Soviet Union.

In a separate statement, the union said its members were working on preparing the petitions to be handed over to the Central Elections Commission and stated the incident was "an excellent example of free elections in Yeltsin's Russia."

Mr. Baburin said one of the assailants flashed a police identification card and said the group was carrying out a planned action, according to Interfax.

The report said Moscow police and interior Ministry officials questioned about Mr. Baburin's claim said they knew nothing about it.

Under election regulations, political parties are required to amass 100,000 petition signatures from seven regions of Russia by midnight Saturday to take part in the Dec. 12 legislative elections.

Mr. Baburin said the group fled the premises and took the lists with 20,000 signatures with them.

In a separate development, diehard Communists were allowed to lay red carnations at the Lenin Mausoleum Saturday to mark the 76th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution as city officials in Moscow and St. Petersburg maintained their ban on all rallies scheduled for Sunday.

Government security forces sealed off roads in the western and central part of the city Saturday morning, a Reuter correspondent reported.

The roadblocks prevented a planned evacuation of 1,471 civilian after months of talks between Serb and Muslim officials.

The Serb, Croat and Muslim civilians were to be taken by bus from Sarajevo to Serbia and Croatia Saturday. But army moves against the HVO unit left the civilians, mainly women, children and the elderly, stranded in the rain in Sarajevo.

"I don't see that it will happen in the near future," said Colonel Bill Aikman, a spokesman for the United Nations Protection Force in Sarajevo.

It was not immediately clear whether Sarajevo's small, but well-armed HVO unit would try to resist the government decree.

Sarajevo's HVO unit of about 1,500 men has served in the city's joint defence with mostly Muslim troops of the government First Corps throughout Bosnia's 19-month-old war.

But tensions with the Bos-



A mother and child share a piece of bread and an apple, sheltering from heavy rain with some 700 other Croat refugees from Vares in Serb-occupied Sokolac, in central Bosnia (AFP photo).

Bosnian army disbands Croat unit in Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — The Muslim-led Bosnian army disbanded an independent Croat unit in Sarajevo Saturday and sealed off streets in the HVO under its supreme command. U.N. peacekeeping soldiers moved in at one point to prevent an outbreak of fighting.

The decision has been made to disband the HVO headquarters and to create a new Bosnian army First Corps brigade from it. Restrictions on movement have been imposed in part of the city, Sarajevo Radio said in its morning newscast.

"The British government and its forces bear ultimate responsibility for this conflict and armed struggle is aimed primarily at them," said an IRA statement issued in Dublin late on Friday night.

Political analysts in the province said the IRA offer to stop hunting down Protestant rebels in the capital was aimed at reassuring Catholics terrified by the recent wave of killings in which ordinary Catholics have been gunned down at home and at work.

The UFF says it is only fighting back against nationalists who support the IRA's campaign to end British rule. It aligns itself with so-called loyalist Protestant political parties which want the province to stay British.

The Greysteel atrocity was the protestant militants' response to the IRA's bungled bombing of a Protestant meeting place in Belfast one week earlier which killed nine Protestants in a fish shop and triggered a new round of sectarian bloodshed.

There was no immediate response from the UFF, the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) or other outlawed Protestant gangs which have killed more than 44 people this year to the IRA's 30.

Sources close to the UFF and UVF said they would want to see the ceasefire taking hold before calling off their campaign.

Last Sunday an IRA sniper fatally wounded a policeman on patrol in the village of Newry, 60 kilometres south of Belfast, the last known IRA attack since the Belfast bomb.

The IRA says it does not carry out sectarian killings but sees policemen and members of the 18,000-strong British military as legitimate targets in a war to end colonial rule.

The tit-for-tat killings has given momentum to a new drive by Britain and Ireland to find a political solution.

Meanwhile, a 26-year-old Londonderry man was charged Friday with the murders of the seven people in Greysteel on Halloween eve.

Brian McNeill was also charged with membership in a proscribed organisation — the outlawed Ulster Defence Association.

Georgian troops enter last rebel stronghold

MOSCOW (AP) — Georgian government forces Saturday entered Zugdidi, the west Georgia stronghold of rebel leader Zviad Gamsakhurdia according to initial reports, the spokesman said.

Russian marines had been preparing Friday to land near Zugdidi.

Quoting the press service of Russian troop units in the Caucasus, ITAR-TASS said a flotilla of the Black Sea Fleet left its base at Sevastopol Friday en route for the small port of Anaklia, 10 kilometres from Zugdidi.

The first contingent of 500 Russian marines took control of key road and rail facilities in the strategic Black Sea port of Poti Friday, as Georgian forces closed in on Zugdidi.

On Saturday, another 750 marines and infantrymen landed in Poti, backed by about 40 armoured vehicles, Interfax News Agency said, quoting the Black Sea Fleet chief-of-staff.

There were no casualties among government forces.

Tokyo, Seoul agree to strengthen ties

KYONGJU, South Korea (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and South Korean President Kim Young-Sam agreed to put the past behind and build stronger ties in the first state-to-state meeting here Saturday between politicians of the new generation.

Meanwhile, a group of 100 protesters, led by 10 elderly women who had been forced into wartime sexual slavery for Japanese troops, marched several kilometres through the streets toward a hotel, the venue of the summit.

During the two-hour talks, Mr. Hosokawa's wife, Kayoko, visited an asylum for the aged, where some 100 Japanese widows who had married Koreans were accommodated.

Mr. Hosokawa and Mr. Kim would agree to overcome decades of bickering over the legacy of Japan's colonial rule of Korea and prepare the ground for stronger bilateral ties between the two neighbouring countries, Mr. Kim's aide said.

Mr. Bolger, speaking to party supporters in his rural constituency of Te Kuiti, denied the election had plunged New Zealand into a constitutional crisis.

"We were never inclined to shoot our way in there," he said in an interview on CNN, noting that the U.S. troops that were to have been part of a U.N. mission to Haiti were not combat troops.

Mr. Aristede, who is in exile in the United States since his September 1991 overthrow, has asked the United Nations for a total commercial blockade.

"We are heavy-hearted," said Herve Denis, information minister in a weak Aristede-backed transition government. "Those people (the army) are mad. Now it is up to the United Nations."

National Party supporters were summed by Saturday's vote, which flew in the face of all the polls. National lost 19 seats, including that of Labour Minister Maurice McTigue.

Mr. Bolger was certain his campaign theme "don't mess with success", focused on his record of achieving economic recovery, had won over the electorate.

Recurrent controversy over the legacy of the Japanese colonial rule from 1910 to 1945, especially the use of some

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1993

IRA offers truce to Protestant militants

DUBLIN (R) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) has offered Protestant death squads a truce to end sectarian violence in which 24 people have died in two weeks of the worst bloodshed in Northern Ireland for 17 years.

But it promised no end to a 20-year guerrilla war to drive Britain from the province. The British and Irish governments sought a cessation of the violence to allow them to launch a new peace initiative.

The offer was aimed at Protestant extremist gangs such as the Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) which claimed responsibility for the killing a week ago of seven Halloween revelers in a pub at Greysteel, near the province's second city, Londonderry.

"Any cessation of murder attacks against nationalists would, of course, be welcome. As a consequence, we would monitor the situation and review our position towards those directly involved in the murder gangs," the IRA statement said.

"The British government and its forces bear ultimate responsibility for this conflict and armed struggle is aimed primarily at them," said an IRA statement issued in Dublin late on Friday night.

Political analysts in the province said the IRA offer to stop hunting down Protestant rebels in the capital was aimed at reassuring Catholics terrified by the recent wave of killings in which ordinary Catholics have been gunned down at home and at work.

The UFF says it is only fighting back against nationalists who support the IRA's campaign to end British rule. It aligns itself with so-called loyalist Protestant political parties which want the province to stay British.

The Greysteel atrocity was the protestant militants' response to the IRA's bungled bombing of a Protestant meeting place in Belfast one week earlier which killed nine Protestants in a fish shop and triggered a new round of sectarian bloodshed.

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Holly Hunter wins Best Actress Award

SYDNEY (R) — U.S. star Holly Hunter won the best actress prize in Australia's premier film awards with her Australian-French film "The Piano" sweeping 11 awards in all. Hunter, playing a 19th century immigrant to New Zealand who is entangled in a complex emotional and sexual love triangle, joined fellow American cast member Harvey Keitel, winner in the best actor category in the Australian Film Institute (AFI) Awards. The film, this year's joint winner of the Golden Palm Award at Cannes, also took out best original screenplay, best cinematography, and best

director for the New Zealand-born Jane Campion. It had received 13 nominations. Campion's film in May became the first directed by a woman to win the prestigious French award.

"I would like to thank Jane Campion for providing me with an opportunity that changed my personal and my professional life," Hunter said in pre-recorded comments received via satellite. "I think it's probably the most valuable experience I've ever had."

The British film, "The Crying Game", about an Irish Republican Army operative who falls for a transvestite lover of one of his victims without knowing he is a man, won best foreign film.

"This industry is crucial to our cultural development," Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating told the annual AFI Awards ceremony as he handed The Piano producer Jan Chapman the best film prize.

Judy Davis, of "My Brilliant Career" and "Husbands and Wives", won best supporting actress for her role in the Australian film "On

Jordan National basketball team leaves today for Asian Championships

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's national basketball team leaves for Jakarta, Indonesia, Sunday to take part in the 17th Asian Basketball Championships which will be held on Nov. 12-21.

Eighteen countries will be vying to capture the competition's top two places to represent Asia in the World Basketball Championships.

"Our task will not be easy, but we will seek to score the best results possible," Samir Janak, vice president of the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) told the Jordan Times.

Participating teams have been divided into four groups. The top two teams in each group will advance to the second round where the four winning teams will qualify to the semifinal round and compete for the top four positions, while the losers will play for 5-8th places.

Jordan is in Group A with China, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Thailand.

Group B includes S. Korea, the Philippines, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates.

Japan, Iran, Hong Kong and Indonesia are in Group C, while Group D includes Taiwan, N. Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia and Bangladesh.

According to JBF reports, the Kingdom's national team has completed its preparations and is in good form to challenge other Asian hopefuls.

The Jordanian team will have a tough task when they take on Asian titleholders China. Assuming that Jordan will beat Pakistan and Thailand, they will have to secure a win over Saudi Arabia to qualify for the second round.

In the last Asian Championships in 1991 held in Kobe, Japan, the Jordanian team had captured eighth place. They lost 97-73 to Saudi Arabia and defeated Singapore 123-67 to qualify for the

second round.

Although the JBF this year had drawn up a carefully-studied training programme to ensure an advanced standing in this year's championship, the schedule did not materialise except for the organising of the International Basketball Championships in which teams from Iraq, Lebanon, Russia and Bulgaria provided a good opportunity for the Jordanian team to reassess its plans and avoid any shortcomings.

According to officials, the international tournament cost the JBF JD 38,000. Part of the expenses were covered by a sponsor. The JBF cancelled plans to host at least two top teams from Russia or Egypt and holding a training camp in Eastern Europe prior to departure to Jakarta as that would have cost the cash-strapped federation another JD 15,000.

So far the JBF has been unable to come up with a sponsor to cover the approximate cost of JD 17,000 for participation in the Asian Championships.

The national team, who had a tough twice-a-day training programme over the past weeks, was also hindered by bureaucratic complications surrounding four of the team's members who are university students. Key guard Naser Bushnaq missed practice and is now certain to miss the championships due to an aggravated ankle injury, as will Muntaser Abdultayeb who had previously hinted that he might not be able to leave his studies in the school of medicine, but the team's coach and officials had nevertheless put him off for joining the national team's training anyway.

The team includes Murad and Hilal Barakat, Marwan Ma'touq, Yousef Zaghloul, Samir Murqus, Mohammad Al Shamali, Marwan Al Saeedi, Ziyad Al Nabulsi, Waled Badran, Kamal al Helou, Jihad Saliba.

Jordan plays Saudi Arabia on the opening day, Friday Nov. 12. They next face Pakistan on Nov. 14; China on Nov. 15 and Thailand on Nov. 16. The second round begins on Nov. 17.

Samaranch hopes for warfare truce during Olympics

DUBLIN (R) — National Olympic Committees from across Europe unanimously endorsed a bid to return to the ancient Greek ideal of no warfare during the games.

International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch said he hoped such a truce could be implemented by the winter games in Lillehammer, Norway, which begin on Feb. 12.

"We are trying to implement it by Lillehammer," Samaranch told Reuters during a bi-annual meeting of the Association of European National Olympic Committees (AENOC) in Dublin.

Asked if he was optimistic a truce would be achievable at Lillehammer, he said: "I'm neither optimistic nor pessimistic.

tic. We have decided to work to make this a reality. We know that it will be very difficult, but we have made our minds up."

The year 1994 marks the centenary of the IOC.

The United Nations General Assembly on Oct. 25 called for all member states to observe a symbolic Olympic truce, beginning one week before and ending one week after every game.

It also pronounced 1994 a year of "sport and Olympic ideal."

"We consider the U.N. resolutions to be very important historically for the Olympic movement," Samaranch said.

AENOC President Jacques Rogge said backing by the world's main political body had reinforced and lent prestige to the goal of a truce.

Rogge said: "I'm neither optimistic nor pessimistic

efforts to settle international conflicts through peaceful means.

The appeal, which the IOC took to the United Nations with the support of 184 members, was unanimously endorsed in Dublin where delegations greeted it with applause.

Pan-American Olympic Committees will also discuss a truce at a similar meeting on Nov. 18 in Puerto Rico.

The meeting was due to recognise the National Olympic Committee of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

But Rogge passed on apologies from neighbouring war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina. They had been unable to leave the country for security reasons, he said.

Senna grabs pole position for Australian GP

ADELAIDE. Australia (Agencies) — Brazilian Ayrton Senna ended the Williams, Renault team's Grand Prix monopoly of 24 consecutive pole positions by taking the coveted pole here for Sunday's Australian Formula One Grand Prix.

In warm, clear conditions, Senna, driving a McLaren Ford, preserved his position when no rival bettered his lap record of one minute 13.71 seconds, posted Friday, in Saturday's second and final qualifying for the season-en-

ding Grand Prix.

Senna, who was 1.4 seconds slower Saturday, will start from the pole — his first for 17 months since last year's Canadian GP — with his fierce rival and "world champion-elect" Alain Prost alongside him on the front row.

Prost, in a Williams and bidding for his 52nd GP win in his farewell 199th race, could not better Senna's time in his 12 lap assault on the twisting 3.7 kilometre (2.3 mile) Adelaide Street Circuit.

Prost's Williams teammate,

Britain's Damon Hill, leapfrogged from sixth to third on the grid with Saturday's best effort of 1.13.826.

Hill's session ended spectacularly, and nearly disastrously, when he spun out on his final lap and narrowly missed being rammed side-on by an oncoming car.

Hill's car was pushed to safety by track marshalls and the son of former two-times world champion Graham Hill left the track by a gate.

German Benetton Ford driver Michael Schumacher, runner-up here last year, finished fourth fastest with 1.14.098 ahead of Senna's McLaren teammate, Mika Hakkinen of Finland (1.14.106).

Defending Australian GP champion, Austrian Gerhard Berger, held onto his place on the third row of the grid.

Senna stretched his record career GP poles to 62, 24 ahead of Prost and former two-time world champion Jim Clark, but it was his first since the Canadian race at Montreal on June 14, last year.

"It's taken a long time, but I've got my single pole for the year and I'm very happy," Senna told a press conference.

"I'm surprised to be on the pole this weekend because both Damon and Alain had the best potential to be on the first row and for whatever reasons

they weren't able to get the maximum out of yesterday. I had a very good lap, and got it at the right moment."

"I went out to see what we could do in these conditions and I changed the car on purpose for the race tomorrow."

Senna said the times were slower Saturday because of the hotter temperatures, after two days of cooler, cloudy weather.

"It was much warmer today and the asphalt temperature was a lot higher so the tyres were working differently than yesterday's qualifying."

Hill said a slight improvement in his Williams Renault car had set up his quicker times Saturday.

"We worked quite hard on trying to rectify the problems that we experienced yesterday and the car was certainly a little bit better, it was 50-50, improvements in the air and getting used to the track."

Thirteen days after he assaulted rival driver Eddie Irvine, Senna said he should not have punched the Irishman.

"Nothing justifies hitting him," Senna said Saturday after qualifying in pole position for the Australian Grand Prix.

"I'm surprised to be on the pole this weekend because both Damon and Alain had the best potential to be on the first row and for whatever reasons

"I'm not justifying myself, but what went on was absurd."

Senna punched Irvine after winning the Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka on Oct. 24.

Declarer won the opening lead in hand. Without benefit of East's strength-showing double, declarer might have gone after diamonds, or led twice toward dummy's heart hand. West noted that East probably had diamond length and well as both high hearts, declarer instead crossed to the king of spades and successfully finessed the jack.

With West now out of trumps, declarer continued with a diamond ducking when West discarded an encouraging club. Declarer won and led twice toward dummy's heart hand. When West led a club, declarer ruffed a long diamond, declarer exited with the queen of hearts. That forced East to win and, although the defender could cash another high heart, the table's jack of hearts became the fulfilling trick.

Opening lead: Ten of C. Do you even wonder why experts sometimes play a hand as if they were looking at all the cards? More often than not, the bidding has been too revealing.

Once South opened the bidding with a weak one no trump (12-14 by partnership agreement) and North had shown interest in the major, East had little to gain by entering

the auction with what was the best hand at the table. East-West were probably outgoing, but East-West were probably doing more than passing information to the enemy. South made good use of that in the play of the hand.

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When West led a club, declarer ruffed a long diamond, declarer exited with the queen of hearts. That forced East to win and, although the defender could cash another high heart, the table's jack of hearts became the fulfilling trick.

Opening lead: Ten of C.

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Elections reflect King's commitment to democracy — ex-ambassador Harrison

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The multi-party parliamentary elections to be held in Jordan on Nov. 8 — the first since 1956 where a number of parties can legally participate — are a testament to King Hussein's commitment to democracy, former U.S. ambassador to Jordan, Roger Harrison, said Friday.

Mr. Harrison discussed the upcoming elections in Jordan during a luncheon sponsored by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. The U.S. official completed his tour of duty in Jordan several months ago.

"It is hard to exaggerate the King's dedication to democracy," Mr. Harrison stressed. "Democratization, he said, is the King's 'leading political cause.'

The Nov. 8 election, "because it is a free election," will be another step in the democratization process.

"If there is one thing for which King Hussein would like to be remembered in the Arab World it is as a pioneer of democracy."

Commenting on the King's views on democracy, Mr. Harrison said "I think he sees the democratic idea as the only counterweight, the only idea that can fill the kind of ideological void that the death of other ideologies in the Arab World has left."

King Hussein is looking for "the glue that can hold together social organisations, a glue which is Islamic, but is not fundamentalist," Mr. Harrison

said. "I think in the view of the King, that glue has to be democracy."

Venturing to make a prediction on the elections, Mr. Harrison said "I think we will look that the parliament looks pretty much as it does now. I don't expect there to be any great changes."

"I think people will be looking at trend lines and momentum, more than absolute results," he noted. Mr. Harrison stressed that all parties and factions in Jordan are seeking political stability and a continuation of democracy.

Noting the democratic experiment in Jordan has resulted in a more politically mature and pragmatic electorate, Mr. Harrison said "I don't think there is any faction in Jordan right now that would like to see the present system upset. No one would like at this point to have a confrontation on any front."

"This is true in part," he said, "because the present system has begun working, begun dealing with real problems. It has begun legislating, debating things that the country cares about. It has begun showing results."

Asked whether the Middle East peace process will be a major factor in the elections, Mr. Harrison said "My guess is it will not be the preeminent issue on the agenda of most voters in Jordan." Religious principles, tribal affiliations and economic issues will sway voters more so than attitudes on the peace process, he said.

Looking past the Nov. 8



Roger Harrison

election, Mr. Harrison said observers of politics in Jordan can take either a cynical or hopeful view.

"The cynical view," he said, "would be that the Muslim Brotherhood movement is bidding its time. It knows it cannot at this moment take on the status quo. It certainly cannot confront the King, who is at his peak of popularity in Jordan.... The Islamists can, however, 'build their grassroots support and wait for their day to come,' he added.

A more hopeful view, Mr. Harrison said, suggests that "what we are seeing in Jordan is really the success of the democratic experiment."

"One thing democracy is supposed to do is force ideological movements to become political ones. There is evidence that that is happening. What it is supposed to do is lead to... public insistence on an alterable fact."

not abandoning democratic institutions. I think we are seeing that too," he said.

Democracy has yielded an electorate in Jordan that wants more than just political slogans, Mr. Harrison said. Politicians that can't deliver may be voted out of office. "There has been forced on all political parties... a kind of democratic pragmatism which I think is very hopeful," Mr. Harrison said Saturday.

All foreign diplomats based in Kabul were summoned to the Defence Ministry for an afternoon briefing on fighting in the district centre of Tagob between Defence Ministry troops and the Hezb-e-Islami faction loyal to Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Diplomats were told that a special commission set up to broker a ceasefire agreement had so far failed in its task because Mr. Hekmatyar had refused to accept a truce, and that at Saturday's commission meeting the two of his representatives had failed to turn up.

The fighting is between Hezb-e-Islami and Jamiat-e-Islami faction troops loyal to Ahmad Shah Masood, who officially resigned last May as defence minister, but who in fact is still the power behind closed ministry doors, and who by radio has been personally directing his forces in the Tagob battle.

It was Mr. Masood's representative who briefed Kabul diplomats Saturday, saying fighting is still going on "east of Tagob," the district centre which was captured by Hekmatyar guerrillas late Tuesday, but re-captured Thursday according to Defence Ministry officials.

There is evidence, Mr. Harrison said, that democratization in Jordan has "created a popular backlash against the forces of reaction and anti-democracy in the country and that given a few years time the social consciousness in Jordan will be changed in such a way that whatever happens, (and) whoever rises to power, democracy would (remain) an alterable fact."

No truce in Kabul fighting

KABUL (AFP) — A special ceasefire commission has been unable to secure a truce in Afghan factional fighting northeast of Kabul, which is now in its sixth day, diplomats said Saturday.

All foreign diplomats based in Kabul were summoned to the Defence Ministry for an afternoon briefing on fighting in the district centre of Tagob between Defence Ministry troops and the Hezb-e-Islami faction loyal to Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

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PLO may execute alleged Mossad spy

TUNIS (Agencies) — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official faces likely execution after confessing to spying for the Israeli intelligence service, PLO sources said Saturday.

The accused, Adnan Yassin, a consular official for the PLO in Tunis, was flown to Yemen for trial under the personal escort of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, the sources said, speaking in exchange for anonymity.

Yasser serves as headquarter for the Palestinian revolutionary court, which in the past has tried major cases such as the assassination in January 1991 of the PLO's security mastermind, Salih Khalaf.

Mr. Yassin, 47, deputy to PLO envoy Hakam Balawi at the Tunis mission, was arrested Oct. 25. His son Hanif was also detained.

Palestinian sources said the Yassins were found to have placed listening devices in the offices of Mr. Balawi and another top official, Mahmud Abbas, who signed the autonomy deal with Israel on Sept. 13.

Mr. Abbas and Mr. Arafat head the Palestinian follow-up committee for negotiations with Israel.

The two Yassins are accused of making clandestine broadcasts to Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service, and they may have been plotting to kill Mr. Arafat in a car-bomb.

Never before have there been allegations of an Israeli agent penetrating so high into the organisation's hierarchy.

Through Mr. Balawi, Mr. Yassin had access to some of the PLO's most sensitive documents, including files on PLO operatives based in there.

War costs Sudan \$2m a day, ex-minister says

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — A minister in a former Sudanese government is warning the current regime that ending the protracted and costly civil war is the only way to save the country's economy.

The criticism in a magazine interview, which revealed the war is costing \$2 million a day, was the first by a prominent Sudanese of Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir's 4½-year rule.

The comments appeared Thursday in Al Zilal — an independent weekly magazine that under its license is not supposed to deal in politics. The government, which generally keeps a tight rein on dissent and has had more than two dozen dissident military officers shot, has not reacted to the article.

Until now, such outspokenness has been unheard-of in Gen. Bashir's Sudan. No opposition newspapers or magazines are allowed, and the main newspapers, the official Sudan News Agency, radio and television are government-owned.

The National Council for Press and Printing restricts private publications as to subjects. Al Zilal is supposed to report only on cultural and social topics.

In the interview, economist Awad Abdul Majeed said the stoppage.

Without stopping this war, Sudan will never be able to alleviate the high cost of living, let alone end the suffering," he said. An end to the war "will open new doors for the rehabilitation of our foreign relations and will lead to huge amounts of aid to the country."

BRAZILIAN GOVERNOR SHOOTS EX-GOVERNOR

BRASILIA (AP) — Police arrested the governor of the northeastern state of Paraíba after he shot and wounded a rival politician who criticised him publicly, according to radio and press reports. Governor Ronaldo Cunha Lima was in custody after shooting Tarciso Buriti, a former governor of the state, CBN Radio reported.

The government press office of Paraíba told Associated Press in a telephone interview that Mr. Buriti was wounded in the mouth and chest. Mr. Buriti underwent surgery and is out of danger, the press office said. The shooting took place at a restaurant in João Pessoa, the state capital 2,500 kilometers from Brasília. The governor fired three times; two of the shots found their mark. The Jornal Do Brasil Rio daily said. A Paraíba civil servant said that Mr. Buriti, a member of the Liberal Front Party, was a main critic of the governor, a member of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party.

Omar Sharif recovering from heart surgery

LONDON (AP) — Actor Omar Sharif left a London hospital, 11 days after undergoing heart surgery. The 61-year-old star of Dr. Zhivago Lawrence Of Arabia had a single bypass operation, carried out by Sir Magdi Yacoub at Harefield Hospital, West London, on Oct. 25. "He will spend a couple of weeks in London so he is near the hospital in case he needs us before returning to his home in France," a hospital spokesman said anonymously.

Environment group to meet in Egypt

WASHINGTON (USAID); and Jonathan Margolis, Office of Cooperative Programmes in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs at the Department of State.

Four other multilateral delegations have recently completed the 4th round, those on Economic Development were in Copenhagen Nov. 8 and 9; on Arms Control in Moscow, Nov. 3 and 4; on Refugees, in Tunis Oct. 12-14; and on Water Resources in Beijing Oct. 26-28.

Mr. Miller, who noted that the United States and the Russian Federation serve as the co-sponsors of the multilateral groups, said the multilateral track has been called the "engine" moving the Middle East peace process because it is developing solutions to very basic problems that plague the region as a whole.

Earlier on, the environmental group identified desertification (the spread of the desert), and solid and liquid waste disposal as priority concerns.

"Multilateral negotiations embody two important concepts," explained Dennis Ross, U.S. special Middle East coordinator and one of the architects of the Madrid breakthrough.

The second track, the multilaterals, as an essential complement to the bilaterals, was designed to address functional issues on a region-wide basis," Mr. Djerejian said. The very nature of multilateral problems called for "expertise, energy and good will" from around the world, he stressed.

Israeli soldiers wound 4 in Gaza

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded four Palestinians during a general strike Saturday on the Gaza Strip.

Two were shot in Beit Hanun village and two others at the Nusseirat refugee camp, they said.

Merchants closed their shops to observe the strike called for by the Islamic Jihad in Palestine to mark the anniversary of the intifada against Israeli occupation. The strike was also observed in Arab East Jerusalem.

The Islamic group, which is opposed to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)-Israel deal for Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories, says the uprising broke out on Nov. 6.

Most other Palestinian groups give the date as Dec. 9 the same year.

However, Kabul, which receives its power from two dams at Sarobi, has been without electricity since the fighting began last Monday, although it is not clear what has caused the stoppage.

In the interview, economist Awad Abdul Majeed said the stoppage.

Many candidates said they would foil the "vote-buying" by insisting that illiterate voters prove their illiteracy.

"In any case," said a candidate from the south, "my people will demand that communications between illiterate voters and polling officials be confined to the voting booth, out of the earshot of anyone else."

Officials said, as a rule, that would be the case.

The relevant article in the Election Law lists violations as:

— Impersonations, voting more than once in one election, possession of arms in voting centres, forced entry into voting and counting centres with the purpose of influencing or delaying the process or causing harm to officials responsible for the process, influencing the freedom of election, or delaying the election process in any form, tampering with ballot boxes or ballots or voting records.

Violators could be imprisoned for a period of three months to three years and face a fine of up to JD 500 or both.

"The catch is," explained the campaign worker, "the voter has to say the name of the candidate loud enough for the candidate's voting agent at the centre to hear. Once the agent is satisfied that the voter has actually been cast in favour of his candidate, the deal is completed, of course, away from watchful eyes."



For the working class candidates writing on walls as opposed to the multi-colour posters of those who could afford it (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

hoping the children could influence their parents or even hoping to "catch them young," as some voters put it.

Computer troubleshooters complained that they had to be on standby round the clock to fix the systems of candidates who opted for "the scientific method" to reach the hearts and minds of voters.

If food was a tool for some, according to some reports, useful household items such as heaters and blankets were the timely "gift" of some others with an obvious eye on the votes of the women. Yet some others distributed campaign pencils and sharpeners as well as books among schoolchildren, apparently

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Counting begins as soon as possible to come in late evening Monday and the early hours of Tuesday. The Minister of Interior is expected to announce the official results around noon Tuesday.

Candidates appeared to have thrown in everything they had into the final day of the campaign, with huge ads in newspapers and last-minute hustings before the clock struck midnight, when by law, they have to take down the colourful banners